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Alice STATINTL

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ER 10-6329

Kitty

Chris

22 AUG 1958

Miss Margaret Hickey  
Public Affairs Editor  
Ladies' Home Journal  
Independence Square  
Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania

Dear Miss Hickey:

Thank you very much for your letter of 7 August, inviting my views on opening the doors to higher education. The subject is indeed an interesting and timely one, and it is with regret that I must decline to participate. However, I have practiced the policy of not making public appearances on matters not directly related to intelligence.

Please give my warmest wishes to Bee and Bruce Gould if you should see them.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

O/DCI/ [ ] kp 20 Aug 58  
REWRITTEN: JMC; jmf 21 Aug 58

DIST:

Orig - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - ER Via Reading w/basic

1 - Col. Grogan

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(EXECUTIVE)

ER 10-6329/a

Miss Margaret Hickey  
Public Affairs Editor  
Ladies' Home Journal  
Independence Square  
Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania

Dear Miss Hickey:

Thank you very much for your letter of 7 August, inviting my views on opening the doors to higher education. The subject is indeed an interesting and timely one, and it is with regret that I must decline to participate.

I very much appreciate your thinking of me on this matter, but I have found it necessary to practice the policy to avoid public appearances and exchanges concerning matters not directly related to my responsibilities of intelligence.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

STATINTL

O/DCI/[redacted] kp  
20 August 1958  
Distribution:  
Orig - Addressee  
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1 - ER Via Reading  
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10-6329

*Ladies' Home*

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING CO.

INDEPENDENCE SQUARE  
PHILADELPHIA 5, PENNA.  
WALNUT 5-6500*Editors*MARGARET HICKEY  
Public Affairs Editor

August 7, 1958

Dear Mr. Dulles:

May we have the privilege of talking with you about the next in our series of forums with contemporary leaders on pressing citizenship problems?

Because of your deep understanding of international conditions and insight into our special needs at home, your views would be of particular interest. What we would like to do is present to our millions of readers your thinking on how to open doors to college education now denied to many able young people.

Since higher education is indispensable to so many of our nation's tasks, can we afford not to educate these potentially able young people? Should college preparation become the right of the individual able to qualify for admission just as secondary education is now included in the structure of our free public schools, or should we regard it as a privilege to be earned by special effort or obtained through financing by parents? And can we afford to open wide the college doors to receive all youngsters able to qualify and at the same time maintain or improve the quality of higher education? Your comments on these and other questions will be immensely helpful to parents and young people.

This forum like the others will be held in the Journal Workshop in New York City - we hope some time in October or November - on a date which we can set to fit your schedule. The subject is explored usually in a preliminary conference the evening before, and then thoroughly aired in one or two sessions with our editors and other guests the following day. The discussions are then transcribed, carefully edited and along with pictures taken at the meetings, presented as an article in the Journal.

Other leaders headlining previous forums have included Chief Justice Warren, Secretary James Mitchell, Senator Estes Kefauver, Ogden Nash, Dr. Erich Fromm, Miss Irene Dunne and Dr. A. Whitney Griswold. All expenses, of course, will be taken care of, as well as an honorarium, which may be paid to you or to any organization of your choice.

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Won't you let me know when I can meet with you to discuss our plans in greater detail.

Mr. and Mrs. Gould join me in a most cordial invitation to help us develop an outstanding feature on this vital subject.

Cordially yours,

  
Margaret Hickey

Mr. Allen W. Dulles

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum recommends action in Paragraph 6.

2. As you will note from paragraph 4 of Miss Hickey's letter, this conference will require a great deal of your time. There will be a night session and the following day, "one or two sessions with our editors and other guests." This would mean that you would give up almost a whole working day. The LADIES' HOME JOURNAL reserves, as you will note, its journalistic authority to edit the transcribed discussions and then present them as an article. Since all of this will be on the record, your participation would be contrary to current policy of not getting into public oral or written exchanges.

3. Were this forum handled differently it might be possible for you to contribute. By this I mean that should Miss Hickey send to you the discussions after editing with a list of questions they would like you to consider answering, you then would have an opportunity to prepare in writing what your views are and thus you would control the content.

4. You will note that the subject is on college preparation and is wholly on domestic education and it is not on education in Europe or the Soviet Union, etc. The subject, of course, is highly controversial because of the propaganda campaign by the National Education Association which I believe, collects a dollar a month from each teacher in America who belongs and thus has a rather large fund to use in trying to get aid of the Federal Government. There is, of course, the opposition which wants to keep the Federal Government out of education saying it is a state function but that if Federal education is to be a factor it should only be in the funding of